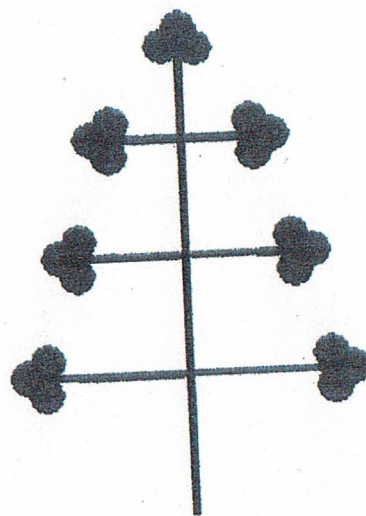


# THE TRADITIONAL MARONITE MASS



Book One  
Mustard Tree Publications  
Traditional Maronite Rite Studies

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**IMPRIMATUR:**

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*Archbishop of Boston*

**Date: August 2, 1957**



**PRAYER TO  
OUR LADY OF LEBANON**

Daughter of the Father, Mother of the Son,  
Bride of the Holy Ghost! unto Thee we lift  
up our hearts, beseeching Thee to guide our  
Fatherland, Lebanon; and to save, unite and  
bless its children throughout the world. Thou  
art the One Whom King Solomon magnified  
in his Canticle of Canticles. Thou art the  
Queen of Heaven and earth. Thou art our  
Holy Mother and we are Thy children, pre-  
serve us in our holy Catholic faith, guide  
sinners to do penance and the infidels to enter  
into the true religion. Thou art the One Whom  
all the prophets magnified. Thou art the One  
Whom the generations waited for. Bless our  
hearts, sanctify our souls and, at our death,  
help us. In Thee we put our hope. Our Lady  
of the Cedars of Lebanon, pray for us.

## INTRODUCTION

The text of the Mass presented in this booklet is translated from the Syriac Missal of the Maronite Rite. The collaboration of Jesuits of Weston College in accomplishing this task is gratefully acknowledged.

The Maronite Rite, which is used by more than 300,000 Catholic Maronites in Lebanon and Syria and by nearly 100,000 in the United States and Canada, is derived from the ancient liturgy of Antioch in Syria. We hope that this version will enable the English-speaking faithful to attend Mass in this rite with understanding and devotion.

The expense of publishing this booklet has been donated by the charity of the Most Reverend Richard J. Cushing, Archbishop of Boston. In gratitude to our gracious benefactor, all income realized by its sale will go to the Charities of our beloved Archbishop.

Louis Khalil



Mary, Mother of life and Mother of God, and through the intercession of the Saints, in the ages.

Assistant: Amen.

#### DISMISSAL

Priest: Go in peace, my Brethren and dearly Beloved, we have commended you to the grace and mercy of the Most Holy and Most Glorious Trinity; go with the viaticum and the blessings which you have received from the propitiatory altar of the Lord. Absent and present, living and dead, redeemed by the triumphant cross, O may it keep you from the corruption and the power of sin. And may we be assisted by your prayers, O Our Preceptors and Our Brethren, in the ages.

#### THE FINAL BLESSING

Priest: May the blessing of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, come from heaven and descend upon me and upon you, and remit your sins and cancel your debts, and give rest to the souls of your dead, and write their names in the book of His heavenly kingdom. May God deliver us and you from damnation and confusion on the day of the true and just judgment. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to Thee be glory, forever. Amen. Go in peace and pray for me, for the love of Christ.

### THE MASS OF THE CATECHUMENS

#### THE PREPARATION OF THE BREAD AND THE WINE

The Priest, having vested in the sacristy, proceeds to the foot of the altar. The people stand at his entrance. He kneels, then ascends to the middle of the altar table, bows his head before the altar, then to the right and to the left, and prays secretly:

Priest: I will go in to the altar of God and to God who gives joy to my youth. He genuflects. O God, I have entered into Thy house and have adored before Thy throne. O Heavenly King, forgive me all my sins. He bows. Bind, O Lord, our festival days even unto the corners of Thine altar.

The Priest puts incense into the censer, saying:

Priest: To the praise and honor of the most holy and most glorious Trinity these grains of incense are placed by my sinful hands.

Meanwhile, the Choir or Assistant sings the hymn of praise:

Choir: Praise the Lord, all ye peoples. Alleluia. O Jesus, fountain of light, may we see the light in



Let us all pray and implore mercy and clemency from the Lord.

He takes the paten in his right hand and the chalice in his left hand. Blessing himself with the paten, he says:

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

The people sit down as the Priest turns to the Epistle side of the altar, where the Assistant incenses the paten and chalice. The Priest places the chalice in the center of the corporal, puts the paten over it and takes the host in both hands, saying:

Priest: O Almighty, Wonderful, and Ever-

Thy light. Thou art very true light, Thou Sun of the world. Make us worthy receptacles of Thine enlightening light. Praise the Lord, all ye peoples. Alleluia.

O Holy One, who livest in radiant light, drive far from us the works of sin and evil thoughts. Deign to assist us, O Lord, to fulfill with purity of heart Thy will. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. Alleluia.

O merciful Lord, have pity on me as Thou didst pity the thief; forgive the sins I have committed as Thou didst pardon the sinful woman and as Thou didst pardon Simon Peter, so forgive me my negli-

which we have drunk may be for our salvation and the remission of the sins of all the living and the faithful departed. And to Thee we sing glory, now and forever.

Assistant: Amen.

Priest: Peace be with you.

Assistant: And with Thy spirit.

Priest: Extending his hands: Stretch forth, O Lord, the right hand of Thy majesty and remove from Thy Church all wickedness and guard Thy flock from every evil. To Thee may we sing glory and thanksgiving and to Thy blessed Father, and to the Holy Ghost, forever.

Assistant: Amen.

Priest: Bless all of us, guard all of us, protect all of us, help all of us. Show all of us the way of life and salvation. Let Thy mercy and clemency be upon all of us. Guard our brothers who are absent, watch over those who are present and all those who have shared with us by word or deed in this Eucharist. May God who received the oblations of those just ancients Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, also accept the oblations, promises, first fruits and tithes of these, and give rest and happy memory to their dead and protection and good hope to the living, through the intercession of



and my mouth utter thanksgivings to Thee. By the nails in Thy hands and feet and by the lance which pierced Thy side, forgive me my trespasses and my sins.

As the fingers of his left hand are washed the Priest says: Protect me, O Lord, from all harm and may Thy right hand assist me lest I consent to evil works, and guard me forever.

Consuming the ablution, the Priest says: May they be saturated with the richness of Thy house and do Thou give them drink from the torrent of Thy delights, because the fountain of life is with Thee.

The Priest wipes the chalice and paten, saying: Wipe away, O Lord, with the sponge of Thy clemency all my trespasses and forgive, through Thy mercy, the sins I have committed in Thy sight. O Christ, the King, Our Redeemer, in virtue of Thy holy mysteries which I have performed, make me worthy to minister to Thee in Thy heavenly kingdom, together with the innocent who have loved Thee and the just who have esteemed Thee, always, O Lord, now and forever.

#### PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Priest: Extending his hands: We beseech Thee, O Christ, Our God, that Thy body which we have eaten and that Thy blood

lasting God, who hast received the offerings, the promises, the first fruits and the tithes of Thy faithful serv-

gences and sins, now and always, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

ants, take, O Lord, the offerings brought by these, Thy servants, who have set them apart, for the sake of Thy love and for the sake of Thy holy Name. Protect and bless them with every spiritual blessing. Make them rejoice with everlasting beatitude and the hope promised to Thy saints. Pour forth, O Lord, Thy blessings upon everything which is theirs; grant health and chastity to their bodies and innocence and holiness to their souls. Give eternal rest to the souls of their departed in Thy blessed and eternal mansions; and in place of these temporal things give them the Life and the Kingdom. Amen.

The Priest holds the host towards the Assistant to be incensed and continues:

Priest: He was led as a lamb to the slaughter and was dumb as a sheep before the shearer, and He did not open His mouth because of His humility. He holds the host with both hands.

O God, who didst accept the sacrifice of Abel in the field, of Noah in the Ark, of Abraham upon the summit of the mountain, of































hold to say: The people recite together with the Priest: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation: Amen.

Priest: Deliver us, O Lord, from all evils past, present, and future through the intercession of Thy Mother and of Thy Saints. And to Thee may we sing glory now, and always, and in the ages.

Assistant: Amen.

#### PRAYER WITH THE BOWING OF THE HEAD

Assistant: Bow down your heads before the merciful God, before the propitiatory altar, and before the body and blood of Our Saviour, wherein life is found for those who discern it, and receive a blessing from The Lord.

Priest: Peace be with you.

Assistant: And with thy spirit.

Priest. Aloud: Strengthen, O Lord, the hearts of Thy servants with the power of Thy heavenly blessing, that with the help of these holy mysteries they may not depart from the ful-

upon this altar of N. (Saint to whom altar is dedicated) our parents, brothers and teachers, and those who have passed from our midst, and all the faithful departed. O God, do Thou now pardon, wipe out, absolve and remit any sins and iniquities, and those of all who, through me, invoke Thee in the true faith. Be mindful in particular, O Lord, of those persons for whom this oblation is offered, as well as of those who have commended themselves to our prayers before Thee. Forgive them their trespasses and sins according to Thy great mercy. Amen.

The Priest opens his hands over the oblation and continues: O Almighty God, who forgivest human iniquities and dost not wish the death of the sinner, to Thee I extend the hands of my heart, and beg of Thee the remission of all my infidelities, and, unworthy though I be, beseech Thee to preserve my mind from all the works of the enemy. Watch over my eyes that they may not look with lust, my ears that they may not listen to vanities, my hands that they may not work iniquities, my emotions that they may burn for Thee, that all I am may be for Thee, and that from Thee I may receive the gift of Thy divine



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mysteries. O God, Our Lord, glory be to Thee forever. Amen.

## THE SECOND OFFICE

The Priest bows his head and sings aloud:

Priest: I have entered, O Lord, into Thy house and have knelt before Thy throne. O heavenly King, forgive me all my sins.

Choir: O heavenly King, forgive us all our sins.

Priest: Bowing his head to the right and to the left. Pray to Our Lord for me.

Choir: May God accept your oblation and have mercy on us through your prayers.

Priest: Blessing himself. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, from now until eternity. And may mercy and clemency be poured forth upon us in each age, now, and forever and ever.

Choir: Amen. For the peace and tranquillity of all the world believing in Christ, from end to end, for the souls in agony, for the sick and the suffering, for our fathers and brothers, for our preceptors, for our sins and our ignorance, for the failings of all of us, for the faithful departed that have left us, let us pray unto God.

Priest: Extending his arms. O merciful Lord God, who lovest men, make us worthy to serve

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salvation, prays for me: for Its sake grant acceptance to my oblation. If Thou dost weigh my trespasses against Thy mercies, Thy clemency will outweigh them as the weight of mighty mountains. He places the host on the paten and continues: If Thou dost compare the sins and the holocaust which is offered for them, greater is the holocaust and higher by far is the victim than the offenses. For my sins Thy beloved one sustained the nails and the lance; His sufferings suffice to reconcile me to Thee: by their power I live life. Glory be to the Father who for our sake sent us His (own) Son. Let adoration be to the Son (he genuflects) who redeemed the world by His crucifixion. Let thanksgiving be to the Holy Ghost through whom the mystery of our salvation was consummated. Blessed be He who in His charity has made all of us to share in life. To Him be glory.

The Priest turns towards the people and blesses them, saying aloud: O Lord Jesus Christ, may Thy cross be a grace to us from evil and its power, forever.

Assistant: Amen.

PATER NOSTER  
THE OUR FATHER

Priest: Aloud: Relying on Thy salutary precept and prepared by divine instruction, we make



giving with an ember, appeasing and replete with mysteries. He makes the sign of the cross with the host eighteen times over the chalice from lip to lip: in the name ✠ of the Father ✠ living ✠ for life, and of the Son ✠ Only-Begotten ✠ holy ✠, born of Him and with Him living ✠ for life, and of the Holy ✠ Ghost ✠ the beginning, end, and complement of all things which have been and are done in heaven and on earth, ✠ one ✠ excellence, ✠ one ✠ power ✠, one ✠ will ✠, ✠ one true God, blessed and exalted, in whom there is no division, from whom is life everlasting. He elevates the host and the chalice, continuing:

O desirable oblation which was offered for us. O propitiatory victim who offered Himself to His Father. O Lamb who became the high priest immolating Himself. O Lord, through Thy mercy, may our prayer be as incense, and through Thee may we offer it to Thy Father. He elevates the host over the chalice, saying: O Father of truth, behold Thy Son a pleasing victim to Thee. Accept Him who died for me, and through Him may I obtain the remission of sins. Behold the oblation made to Thee: accept it from my hands and reconcile me and recall not the sins which I have committed before Thy majesty. He places the chalice on the corporal and continues: Behold how His blood poured forth upon Golgotha for my

Thee, standing in purity and holiness, with knowledge and fear, with a right disposition, and to praise Thee as the Lord and Creator of all things, to whom all owe worship and honor. O God, Our Lord, He raises and joins his hands, bowing his head glory be to Thee forever.

Choir: Amen.

The Priest places incense in the thurible and incenses the oblation, the cross, the altar and the people. Facing the altar he says Psalm 50:

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy mercy; according to Thy great clemency blot out my iniquity.

Wash me completely from my guilt, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my iniquity, and my sin is always before me.

Against Thee only have I sinned, and I have done what is evil in Thy sight. This I confess that Thou mayest be known to be just in Thy sentence, right in Thy judgment.

Behold, I was born in guilt, and my mother conceived me in sin.

Behold, Thou dost delight in sincerity of heart, and teachest me wisdom in the depths of my soul.



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Sprinkle me with hyssop, that I may be cleansed; wash me, that I may become whiter than snow.

Let me hear sounds of joy and gladness, let the bones which Thou hast crushed rejoice.

Turn away Thy face from my sins, and blot out all my guilt.

Create a clean heart for me, O God, and renew in me a steadfast spirit.

Cast me not off from Thy presence, and take not Thy holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, and strengthen me with a generous spirit.

I will teach the unjust Thy ways, and sinners shall be converted to Thee.

Deliver me from blood-guilt, O God, God my Saviour: let my tongue rejoice because of Thy justice.

O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise.

For Thou dost not delight in sacrifice; and a burnt-offering Thou wouldst not accept, if I offered it.

My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit, a contrite and humbled heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.

In Thy goodness, O Lord, deal kindly with Sion, that Thou mayest rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

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cy ✠ of God, the Father, and of Jesus Christ, our Savior, and the descent of the Holy Ghost be with us and with you, Brethren, forever. Secretly: Grant a participation in this sacrifice, O Lord God, to our fathers, brothers, teachers, instructors and departed ones, and to all who have been partners with us in this oblation and in the building of the Holy Church, from her foundation to the present day.

offered to God the Father and sanctified and completed and perfected by the living Holy Ghost who descended upon it. Let us pray for our father, the reverend Priest who has offered and consecrated it, and for the altar of God upon which it has been placed, and for the blessed people who approach and receive it with true faith, and, especially, let us pray for those for whom it is offered and sanctified.

The Priest genuflects, rises and picks up the host, making the sign of the cross over it. Priest: Secretly: We have believed and have offered, we sign ✠ and we break (He touches the four extremities of the host in the form of the cross) this Eucharist, the heavenly bread, the body of the Word of the living God, and we sign the chalice of salvation and of thanks-



with Thine assistance. Remember, O Lord, Thy servants and handmaids who have gone before us, who have died and fallen asleep in the true faith and sleep the sleep of peace. Elevating his hands, he says aloud: Give rest to them and to all those fallen asleep in Christ, in the mansions of light and of consolation, and grant Thy mercy to us and to them.

Assistant: Give rest to them, O God, and forgive and pardon our sins and failings, committed deliberately or in ignorance.

Priest: Aloud: We place our hope in the multitude of Thy mercies, O Lord God, and, therefore, we beseech Thee to make us worthy of the destiny of Thy saints, through Thine Only-Begotten Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, with whom Thou art blessed and glorious, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, now and always, and in the ages. Amen.

Assistant: Amen. As it was, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

#### THE CONSIGNATIONS

Priest: Peace be with all of you.

Assistant: And with thy spirit.

Priest: Blessing the people: May the mer-

Assistant: Sings: Bless us, O Lord, again and again, through this pure and holy sacrifice and through the victim that reconciles,

Then wilt Thou accept lawful sacrifices, oblations and burnt-offerings, then will they offer bullocks on Thine altar.

#### PRAYER OF THE INCENSE

The Priest extends his hands and says aloud:

Priest: Have mercy on us, O Lord, according to Thy graciousness, forgive us our sins through Thy compassion, wash away our iniquities through the abundance of Thy clemency. Create a clean heart and a right and humble spirit within us, sanctify our thoughts, make them purer than the holocausts and nobler than the legal sacrifices of old. Teach the wicked Thy ways and bring back to Thyself those in error, that their tongues may praise Thy justice and they may merit to obtain Thine eternal mercies, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, raising and joining his hands, he bows his head, now and forever and ever.

Assistant: Let us stand rightly in prayer and supplication

Here the Priest sings with the Assistant or says alone a hymn variable with the feast of the day of the week.



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## THE TRISAGION

The Priest incenses the oblation in the form of the cross three times singing:

Priest: Holy God, Holy Strong One, Holy Immortal One. Thrice.

Choir: Have mercy on us. Thrice.

The Priest incenses the oblation in the form of a circle, from left to right (thrice); then the cross and altar (thrice), singing:

Priest: O Holy, Glorious, Strong and Immortal God, who dost inhabit the saints and whose will is accomplished in them, sanctify, O Lord, our thoughts and purify our minds from all stain of guilt and sin, that we may unite in harmony with Thy Holy Church to sing Thine immaculate glory, now and forever and ever.

Assistant: The Psalm of praise is sung before thee, Reverend Father. Give us the blessing, Reverend Father.

Priest: Sing and praise thy Creator.

The Assistant sings a Psalm or Hymn suitable to the day, consisting of three verses, the second of which is sung by the Priest.

## THE EPISTLE

The Assistant who is to read the Epistle asks a blessing from the Priest:

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Kind Father, to accept this holy sacrifice which we offer to Thee, in the first instance, for Thy Holy Catholic Church; give peace to her, protect her, unite her and guide her throughout the whole world; and in particular for Thy servants, Lord N., the Pope of Rome, Lord N., our Patriarch, and Lord N., our Bishop, and for all the children of the right, catholic and apostolic faith. Remember, O Lord, Thy servants and

us pray and beseech our Lord God, at this solemn, tremendous and holy moment, for our fathers, for our leaders, who today rule over us in this present life and nourish and guide the holy Church of God. Let us beseech the Lord for the honourable and holy Lord N., the Pope of Rome, and for Lord N., our Patriarch, and for Lord N., our Bishop, together with all the right believing bishops.

handmaids standing here, for whom we offer this oblation for the good of their souls and the souls of their kin. Be mindful of the holy and glorious and ever Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and of the saints, Peter and Paul, together with the multitude of blessed Apostles and Martyrs and all the saints. Protect us, O Lord, through their intercession,



er, in silence and in fear. And may the peace of God, the Father of us all, and His tranquillity be with us, that we may thrice cry out: Kyrie Eleison.

Assistant: (or Choir): Kyrie Eleison (Thrice). The bell is rung.

The Priest rises and making the sign of the cross three times over the host, says:

Priest: And may He make this ✠ mystery, ✠ the Body ✠ of Christ, Our Lord, to be for our salvation.

Assistant: Amen.

The Priest makes the sign of the cross three times over the chalice, saying:

Priest: And may He make this ✠ Chalice, ✠ the Blood ✠ of Christ, Our Lord, to be for our salvation.

Assistant: Amen.

Priest: Extending his hands: Give us, we beseech Thee, O Lord God, Thy grace in this world, and grant us, through these holy mysteries, Thy kingdom in the next; and to Thee we sing glory, now and always, and in the ages.

Assistant: Amen.

#### INTERCESSIONS FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD

Priest: Secretly: We | Assistant: Aloud:  
entreat Thee, O God, | Bless us, O Lord. Let

Assistant: In the presence of our Reverend Father, by the will of God, I read, over these pure and holy mysteries, from Paul, the Apostle of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Give the blessing, Reverend Father.

Priest: Makes the sign of the cross: Glory to the Lord of Paul and of the Prophets and of the Apostles. May the mercy of God be upon the readers and the hearers, and upon this city and its inhabitants forever. Amen.

The Assistant reads the 'Epistle. When the reading is finished, he says:

Assistant: Let us praise God without ceasing. May the hymns of David be sung in our presence. Give us the blessing, Reverend Father.

Priest: Giving the blessing: May God accept your hymn and lift up the hearts of your hearers in the kingdom of heaven forever.

#### THE GOSPEL

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest: Offer to God sacrifices of praise, bring hither oblations and enter into the court of the Lord, adore Him in His holy temple, confess to Him and bless His Name from whom all life proceeds. Alleluia.

Assistant: In the presence of the Gospel of the Saviour that preaches life for our souls,



we beseech of Thee, O Lord, by this sweet aroma of incense that is offered, Thy mercy.  
 Priest: Lord have mercy. *Thrice.* Peace † be with you all.

Assistant: And with thy spirit.

Priest: Let us listen to the salutary words for our souls from the Holy Gospel of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to N., preacher of life.

Assistant: Hearers be silent, for now the Holy Gospel is to be read. Brethren, be attentive and hearken, give praise and thanksgiving to the word of the living God.

Priest: At that time, therefore, of the dispensation of Our Lord God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, He spoke to His disciples and to the multitudes.

Assistant: Give the blessing, Reverend Father.

The Priest, turning to the people from the left corner of the altar, makes the sign of the cross, saying:

Priest: May the right hand of our Lord, Jesus Christ, † and the lofty arm of His power and the hidden strength of His greatness, source of all the blessings and gifts of life, which descended upon the holy Apostles in the sacred Cenacle of Sion, sanctifying them, and on the Mount of Olives, blessing them, itself now come and descend † and remain upon

Secretly: O Mother of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, intercede for me with your Only-Begotten Son, who was born of Thee, that having forgiven

my debts and sins, He may, through Thine intercession, O most Holy Mother, receive from my lowly and sinful hands this sacrifice which I, in my unworthiness, offer upon this altar.

Assistant: Be mindful of Her, O Lord God, and be gracious to Her prayers, have mercy on us and hear us.

#### INVOCATION OF THE HOLY GHOST

The Priest moves his hands three times over the oblation and says secretly:

Priest: Have mercy on us, O Lord, and send upon us Thy vivifying Holy Ghost. He genuflects, touches the altar three times, kisses it and continues aloud: Hear me, O Lord. (*Thrice.*) May Thy living Holy Ghost come, O Lord, and descend upon this oblation.

Assistant: Bless us, O Lord. How stupendous is this hour and how terrible is this time, My Brethren, in which the Holy Ghost descends from the height of the heavens and hovers over this sacrifice which is on the altar for our sanctification. Stand, then, in pray-



## ANAMNESIS (COMMEMORATION)

Assistant (or Choir): We commemorate Thy death, O Lord, we proclaim Thy resurrection, we await Thy second coming, we beg of Thee mercy and clemency, and we implore the remission of sins. May Thy mercies be upon us all.

The Priest crosses his hands upon his breast, bows his head and says aloud:

Priest: We are mindful, O Lord God, of Thy salutary passion, and of Thy resurrection from the dead, and of Thy glorious ascension into the heavens. Wherefore, Thy church offers to Thee this pure and holy sacrifice, saying:

Assistant (or Choir): Have mercy on us, O God, Father Almighty, have mercy on us.

Priest: We too, lowly and sinful, Thy servants, O Lord, receiving Thy gifts give thanks to Thee for all of them and because of all of them.

Assistant: We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we adore Thee, we believe in Thee, we beseech Thee, be gracious, O Lord God, have mercy on us and hear us.

Priest: Especially and above all, we commemorate the holy, glorious and blessed Mary, Ever Virgin Mother of God.

the brethren, readers and hearers, and protect them, and may it guard this place and the faithful who inhabit this city, and grant peace to the faithful departed who have passed from it, and watch over the faithful living who remain here, now and forever and ever. ✠

Assistant: Amen.

Priest: Turns towards the altar. At the time, therefore, of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Saviour, the Word of God, who was made flesh for us, these things were done.

Assistant: Lord, have mercy on us.

Priest: May the Lord have mercy on us and you, and on all the children of the Holy Church who have been reborn through the reconciliation of Baptism. He blesses himself and reads the Gospel, then blesses the people, saying: ✠ Peace to all of you.

Priest: Secretly: Let praise, thanksgiving and blessing be to Jesus Christ for the life-giving words He has proffered us and to His Father who sent Him for our salvation, and to the

Assistant: Singing: Let us all stand in prayer before the merciful God and cry out in unison to Him, with appeasing voices, asking of the hidden Father, and of the glorious and



living and Holy Ghost, now and forever and ever.

holy Son, and of the Holy Ghost, the Paraclete, that He may accept our sacrifice.

May the message, O Lord, which was preached in Thy church, over Thy flock, be a leaven to our souls, and through it may we have sweet nourishment. May the priests who have read it be reconciled, and the deacons be justified, and the subdeacons and readers receive forgiveness from Thee. O God, be kind to Thy people and have mercy on Thy flock, and may we lift up a threefold voice of praise to the Trinity.

lifted up His eyes to Thee, O God, His Omnipotent Father, and gave thanks to Thee ✠ and blessed it ✠ and sanctified it ✠ and broke it, he touches the host at four points and gave it to His disciples, saying:

TAKE YE, EAT YE ALL OF THIS:  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY

Assistant: Amen. The bell is rung.

The Priest places the host on the paten, genuflects, takes the chalice and continues:  
Priest: In like manner after they had supped, He took this pure chalice into His pure hands and gave thanks to Thee ✠ and blessed it ✠ and sanctified it ✠ and gave it to His disciples, saying:

TAKE YE, DRINK YE ALL OF THIS:  
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY  
BLOOD: OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL  
TESTAMENT: THE MYSTERY OF FAITH,  
WHICH SHALL BE SHED  
FOR YOU AND FOR MANY,  
FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS.

Assistant: Amen. Kyrie Eleison. The bell is rung. The Priest genuflects and continues:  
Priest: As often as you shall do these things, you shall do them in commemoration of me, until I come.



Priest: Secretly: It is truly meet and just always to give thanks to Thee, O Omnipotent Lord God. Aloud: The angels praise Thee, O Lord, the dominations adore Thee, the powers tremble before Thee, the heavens and the virtues of the heavens and the blessed seraphim together acclaim Thee. Make us worthy to cry out with them, suppliantly and together, saying: Holy.

#### THE SANCTUS

The Priest, three times moving his hands over the oblation and making the sign of the cross over it, says secretly:

Priest: Holy art Thou, God the Father, who for our redemption didst send Thy beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ...

Assistant (or Choir) sings: Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, Strong God, Lord of Hosts. The heavens and earth are full of Thy glory and the beauty of Thy majesty, O Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

The bell is rung and people kneel.

#### THE CONSECRATION

The Priest takes the host in both hands, bows over and says aloud:

Priest: On the day which preceded His passion, He took bread into His holy hands and

#### THE MASS OF THE FAITHFUL

##### HYMN OF THE ENTRANCE

Priest and Assistant: Sing: The Lord reigneth and is clothed in beauty. Alleluia. "I am the bread of life," saith the Lord, who hath descended from heaven to earth, that I might give life to the world. I was sent by the Father, as the Word without flesh, and the womb of Mary received me, as a sweet grain of wheat is received in the good earth, and even the hands of the Priests honor me on the altars. Alleluia. Accept our oblation. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. Alleluia. Remember, O Lord, the departed and grant them rest, because they have put on Thee in Baptism, and have received Thee from the altar.

The Priest incenses the oblation, the cross, the altar and the people. All recite:

##### THE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God.



Born of the Father before all ages. God of God, light of light, true God of true God. Begotten, not made; of one being with the Father; by whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven. And was made flesh by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary: **AND WAS MADE MAN.** He was also crucified for us, suffered under Pontius Pilate, and was buried. And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures. And ascending into heaven, He sitteth at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again in glory to judge the living and the dead; and of His kingdom there shall be no end. And in the Holy Ghost; Lord and giver of all life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son. Who together with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And in the one holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church. We confess one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE WASHING OF HANDS

Priest: As water is poured over his hands at the right side of the altar: I will wash my hands among the Innocent, and will walk round Thine altar, O God. To hear the voice

self with the veil: The charity  $\cdot\cdot$  of God the Father. Blessing the people on the right: And the grace  $\cdot\cdot$  of the only-begotten Son. Blessing the people on the left: The participation and inspiration  $\cdot\cdot$  of the Holy Ghost be with all of you, brethren, in the ages.  
Assistant: Amen.

#### THE PREFACE

The Priest makes the sign of the cross over the paten, saying aloud:

Priest: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, the adorable and laudable mystery, in which there is no division, now and always, and in the ages. He repeats these words with the sign of the cross over the chalice and again over the chalice and paten together.

Assistant: Amen. Thrice.

The Priest covers the chalice with the pall. Elevating and joining his hands, he bows slightly, saying aloud:

Priest: Let us lift up our spirits, our minds, and our thoughts.

Assistant: They are with Thee, O Lord.

Priest: Extending his hands and bowing slightly: Let us give thanks to the Lord with

fear, and let us adore Him with trembling.  
Assistant: It is meet and just.



## THE MARONITE MASS

may we hymn glory now and always, and in the ages of ages.

Assistant: Amen. Let each one give the peace to his neighbor in charity and faith which are pleasing to God.

## THE KISS OF PEACE

The Priest touches the altar, paten and chalice with the tips of the fingers of his right hand, each time kissing the index finger and saying:

Priest: Peace be with thee, altar of God, and peace to the holy mysteries placed upon thee. He places his hand over the hand of the kneeling Assistant, saying: Peace be to thee, servant of the Holy Ghost.

Assistant: Kissing the hand of the Priest: Come in peace, father of ours, holy Priest.

At a Solemn Mass the peace is communicated to others.

## RITE OF THE VEIL

The Priest holds the veil in his right hand, flutters it over the paten and chalice, and says in a clear voice:

Priest: Thou art the rock of granite from which the twelve rivers of water poured forth for the twelve tribes of Israel. Blessing him-

## THE MARONITE MASS

of Thy praise and to tell all Thy wondrous deeds. I will rejoice and exult in Thee and sing Thine exalted Name.

PRAYER OF ASCENDING  
TO THE ALTAR

Priest: Returning to the center of the altar and saying aloud: I have entered, O God, into Thy house and I have knelt before Thy throne. O Heavenly King, forgive me all of my sins.

Assistant: O Heavenly King, forgive us all of our sins.

Priest: Pray for me to Our Lord. Turning to the right and to the left.

Assistant: May God accept your oblation and have mercy on us through your prayers.

THE ANAPHORA  
(CANON IN LATIN RITE)  
OF THE  
HOLY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
MOTHER OF ALL THE CHURCHES

## PRAYER OF PEACE

The Priest makes the sign of the cross, saying:

Priest: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, from this moment and



always. He extends his hands and says in a clear voice: O Jesus Christ, Our Lord, who didst say to Thine Apostles: "Peace I leave you, My peace I give unto you," be condescending and grant us, through the goodness of Thy will, Thy tranquillity and peace, that we may lift up praise to Thee.

Assistant: Amen.

Priest: Silently: O Lord God, Mighty One, who, by the pouring forth of Thy mercies, hast comforted our poverty and hast appointed us, lowly and sinners, as Thy servants to the service of Thy majesty, that we may be the ministers of Thy holy altar, do Thou, O Lord, in Thy great mercy, strengthen us with the power of the Holy Ghost and open our mouth, that we may invoke Thy most Holy Ghost over this

Assistant: Sings: Let us stand devoutly and acknowledge, adore and praise the living Lamb of God who is offered on the altar. God has inclined himself and descended to the sinful sons of Adam and saved them from error and the slavery of sin. Let us remember the pure Virgin Mary, the Prophets, the Apostles, the Martyrs, the Innocents and the just in this sacrifice. Our Father (Priest), remember the faithful in

oblation placed here for the remission of our sins and the salvation of our souls.

Christ in your sacrifice. Lord have mercy. (Kyrie Eleison)

And grant peace to one another in the holy kiss, so that we may be rich in Thy love and abound in Thine affection. And to Thee and to Thine only-begotten Son, together with the Holy Ghost, we make glory and thanksgiving ascend, now and always and in the ages.

The Assistant, who has ascended to the altar and knelt, now extends the veil to the Priest who takes it in his right hand, kissing the edge; then he takes the other edge in his left hand and places the folded veil over the chalice. Extending his hands, he says in a clear voice:

Priest: We adore Thee, O Lord, and we beg of Thee graciously to grant us Thy peace, that we may always be free from evils. And to Thee we hymn glory now and in the ages.

Assistant: Amen.

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Priest: Accept, O Lord, our offerings and dispose our days in Thy peace and deliver us from eternal damnation, and number us among the lambs of Thine elect, and to Thee



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Turning towards the Gospel side, he kisses the altar, saying secretly: Remain in peace, O holy altar, and I shall return to thee in peace. May the oblation which I have consumed from thee, be for me a remission of sins and forgiveness of transgressions, and grant me to stand before the tribunal of Christ without condemnation and without confusion. I know not whether I shall return, or not, or whether I shall offer, or not, another sacrifice upon thee.

In low Masses, the Priest says the prayers ordered by Pope Leo XIII.



NIHIL OBSTAT:

James L. Monks, S.J.

*Diocesan Censor Deputatus*

IMPRIMATUR:

† Most Rev. Richard J. Cushing, D.D.

*Archbishop of Boston*

Date: August 2, 1957



## INTRODUCTION

The text of the Mass presented in this booklet is translated from the Syriac Missal of the Maronite Rite. The collaboration of Jesuits of Weston College in accomplishing this task is gratefully acknowledged.

The Maronite Rite, which is used by more than 300,000 Catholic Maronites in Lebanon and Syria and by nearly 100,000 in the United States and Canada, is derived from the ancient liturgy of Antioch in Syria. We hope that this version will enable the English-speaking faithful to attend Mass in this rite with understanding and devotion.

The expense of publishing this booklet has been donated by the charity of the Most Reverend Richard J. Cushing, Archbishop of Boston. In gratitude to our gracious benefactor, all income realized by its sale will go to the Charities of our beloved Archbishop.

Louis Khalil



**PRAYER TO  
OUR LADY OF LEBANON**

Daughter of the Father, Mother of the Son,  
Bride of the Holy Ghost! unto Thee we lift  
up our hearts, beseeching Thee to guide our  
Fatherland, Lebanon; and to save, unite and  
bless its children throughout the world. Thou  
art the One Whom King Solomon magnified  
in his Canticle of Canticles. Thou art the  
Queen of Heaven and earth. Thou art our  
Holy Mother and we are Thy children, pre-  
serve us in our holy Catholic faith, guide  
sinners to do penance and the infidels to enter  
into the true religion. Thou art the One Whom  
all the prophets magnified. Thou art the One  
Whom the generations waited for. Bless our  
hearts, sanctify our souls and, at our death,  
help us. In Thee we put our hope. Our Lady  
of the Cedars of Lebanon, pray for us.



Mary, Mother of life and Mother of God, and through the intercession of the Saints, in the ages.

Assistant: Amen.

#### DISMISSAL

Priest: Go in peace, my Brethren and dearly Beloved, we have commended you to the grace and mercy of the Most Holy and Most Glorious Trinity; go with the viaticum and the blessings which you have received from the propitiatory altar of the Lord. Absent and present, living and dead, redeemed by the triumphant cross, O may it keep you from the corruption and the power of sin. And may we be assisted by your prayers, O Our Preceptors and Our Brethren, in the ages.

#### THE FINAL BLESSING

Priest: May the blessing of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, come from heaven and descend upon me and upon you, and remit your sins and cancel your debts, and give rest to the souls of your dead, and write their names in the book of His heavenly kingdom. May God deliver us and you from damnation and confusion on the day of the true and just judgment. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to Thee be glory, forever. Amen. Go in peace and pray for me, for the love of Christ.

### THE MASS OF THE CATECHUMENS

#### THE PREPARATION OF THE BREAD AND THE WINE

The Priest, having vested in the sacristy, proceeds to the foot of the altar. The people stand at his entrance. He kneels, then ascends to the middle of the altar table, bows his head before the altar, then to the right and to the left, and prays secretly:

Priest: I will go in to the altar of God and to God who gives joy to my youth. He genuflects. O God, I have entered into Thy house and have adored before Thy throne. O Heavenly King, forgive me all my sins. He bows. Bind, O Lord, our festival days even unto the corners of Thine altar.

The Priest puts incense into the censer, saying:

Priest: To the praise and honor of the most holy and most glorious Trinity these grains of incense are placed by my sinful hands.

Meanwhile, the Choir or Assistant sings the hymn of praise:

Choir: Praise the Lord, all ye peoples. Alleluia. O Jesus, fountain of light, may we see the light in



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**THE MARONITE MASS**

**By**

**Rt. Rev. Chor-Bishop Louis Khalil, D.D.**

